

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D. C. 20505

11 February 1985

Dr. Philip Zelikow  
Adjunct Teaching Professor (Code 56ZY)  
Department of National Security Affairs  
U. S. Naval Postgraduate School  
Monterey, California 93943

Dear Dr. Zelikow:

As we discussed in our telephone conversation just now, I'm enclosing a copy of the "CIA Records Access Policy (revised 1 August 1983)", which governs this office's responsibilities for helping other U.S. government historical offices get access to classified CIA documents. The policy was established to provide a CIA point of contact for official historians, and not to provide a general channel for inter-departmental intelligence liaison.

If you wish to send me a request for access, explaining your status and including the information requested in the policy statement, I would be glad to pursue the matter.

As I understand your research project, however, it appears unlikely that you (or your colleague who has the Defense Department contract) qualify as a "government historical office" that we are authorized to assist. If we cannot help you, you'll probably want to ask the Army or the Defense Nuclear Agency to use their intelligence liaison channels to request access to the kind of CIA documentation you are after.

I'm sorry not to be able to offer more encouragement.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature box]

J. Kenneth McDonald  
Chief Historian

Enclosure

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